

Reply to Office Action dated June 21, 2010

REMARKS

Claims 10, 12, 68 and 71-72 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, FIG. 5 and claims 10 and 68 are amended. Various amendments may be made for clarity and are unrelated to issues of patentability.

The Office Action objects to the drawings. The attached replacement sheet for FIG. 5 shows changes to S117 to recite -storage-- rather than “storege”.

The Office Action objects to claims 10 and 68 because of informalities. By this Amendment, claims 10 and 68 are amended as suggested in the Office Action. Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejects claims 10 and 12 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over U.S. Patent 6,324,522 to Peterson et al. (hereafter Peterson) in view of U.S. Patent 6,963,849 to Chaturvedi et al. (hereafter Chaturvedi), U.S. Patent 7,191,142 to Sandell et al. (hereafter Sandell), U.S. Patent Publication 2008/0133384 to Nagata and newly-cited U.S. Patent 7,606,742 to Bright et al. (hereafter Bright). The Office Action also rejects claim 68 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Peterson in view of Sandell, Nagata and Bright. Still further, the Office Action rejects claims 71-72 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Peterson in view of Chaturvedi, Sandell, Bright and U.S. Patent Publication 2002/0042756 to Kumar et al. (hereafter Kumar). The rejections are respectfully traversed with respect to the pending claims.

Independent claim 10 recites a database server, a web server and an order control server. Independent claim 10 also recites that the order control server generates the order sheet for the divisional shipment based on an agreement for the divisional shipment transmitted from the

Reply to Office Action dated June 21, 2010

dealing company having placed the corresponding order, and wherein the order control server stores the generated order sheets for the divisional shipment in a temporary order storage unit respectively, and when a product shipment for a specific one of the order sheets stored in the temporary order storage unit is carried out, deletes information of the corresponding order sheet from the temporary order storage unit.

The applied references do not teach or suggest at least these features of independent claim 10. More specifically, the Office Action (on page 19) states that Peterson, Chaturvedi, Sandell and Nagata do not teach the order control server generates an order sheet for a divisional shipment so that quantity of the ordered tangible product is able to make a divisional shipment on each shipment-available date, when confirming the order for the tangible product purchase. The Office Action (on page 20) then cites Bright's Abstract, col. 3, lines 45-57 and FIG. 3. Bright merely discloses determining if an Electronic Sales Order (ESO) should be split into multiple documents for requests satisfied access multiple sales areas. A workbench may provide a customer purchase order view of the ESO. The workshop may display messages explaining why the ESO was held for review. However, this does not teach or suggest that the order control server generates an order sheet for the divisional shipment based on an agreement for the divisional shipment transmitted from the dealing company having placed the corresponding order, as recited in independent claim 10. Bright does not suggest any agreement for a divisional shipment transmitted from a dealing company.

Bright (and the other applied references) also does not teach or suggest the order control server stores the generated order sheets for the divisional shipment in a temporary order storage

Reply to Office Action dated June 21, 2010

unit respectively, and when a product shipment for a specific one of the order sheets stored in the temporary order storage unit is carried out, deletes information of the corresponding order sheet from the temporary order storage unit, as recited in independent claim 10. Bright does not teach storing generated order sheets in a temporary order storage unit and/or deleting information of the corresponding order sheet from the temporary order storage unit when a product shipment is carried out. Thus, independent claim 10 defines patentable subject matter.

Independent claim 68 recites a database server, a web server, an information acquisition server and an order control server. Independent claim 68 also recites that the order control server generates an order sheet for a divisional shipment so that a partial quantity of the ordered tangible product is able to make a divisional shipment on each shipment-available date, when confirming the order for the tangible product purchase. Independent claim 68 also recites that the order control server generates the order sheet for the divisional shipment based on an agreement for the divisional shipment transmitted from the dealing company having placed the corresponding order, and wherein the order control server stores the generated order sheets for the divisional shipment in a temporary order storage unit respectively, and when a product shipment for a specific one of the order sheets stored in the temporary order storage unit is carried out, deletes information of the corresponding order sheet from the temporary order storage unit.

For at least similar reasons as set forth above, the applied references do not teach or suggest at least these features of independent claim 68. More specifically, Bright and the other applied references do not teach or suggest that the order control server generates the order sheet

Reply to Office Action dated June 21, 2010

for the divisional shipment based on an agreement for the divisional shipment transmitted from the dealing company having placed the corresponding order, as recited in independent claim 68. Bright and the other applied references also do not teach or suggest that the order control server stores the generated order sheets for the divisional shipment in a temporary order storage unit respectively, and when a product shipment for a specific one of the order sheets stored in the temporary order storage unit is carried out, deletes information of the corresponding order sheet from the temporary order storage unit, as recited in independent claim 68. Thus, independent claim 68 defines patentable subject matter.

For at least the reasons set forth above, each of independent claims 10 and 68 defines patentable subject matter. Each of the dependent claims depends from one of the independent claims and therefore defines patentable subject matter at least for this reason. In addition, the dependent claims recite features that further and independently distinguish over the applied references.

Serial No. **09/998,412**

Docket No. **K-0345**

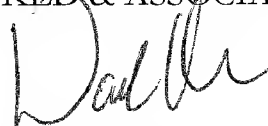
Reply to Office Action dated June 21, 2010

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance of claims 10, 12, 68 and 71-72 are earnestly solicited. If the Examiner believes that any additional changes would place the application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this, concurrent and future replies, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 16-0607 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,
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